Gauge conversion of Miraj-Latur section

267. DR. GOPALRAO VITHALRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have changed the original plan of 'broad gauge conversion of Miraj-Latur section' which was divided in four sections for implementation;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) by when Government are likely to complete the broad-gauge conversion of Latur to Kurduwadi section; and

(d) whether any budget is allotted or spent on this section?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAIL WAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The firm target date has not yet been fixed.

(d) Yes, Sir.

Replacement of Rail Lines

268. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of RAIL WAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the length of rail lines, zone-wise, which need replacement; and

(b) the completed life of the old rail lines and the steps taken to replace them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) The zone-wise break-up of rail lines which need replacement as on 1.4.1999 is as given below:

Railway	Length of rail lines needing replacement (in km.)
Central	1864
Eastern	1284
Northern	3867
North Eastern	856

Railway	Length of rail lines needing replacement (in km.)
Northeast Frontier	918
Southern	836
South Central	1641
South Eastern	2947
Western	3042
TOTAL	17255

(b) The life of the track is normally based on several criteria such as traffic carried, wear of top & sides of rail head, loss of weight proneness to fracture, age and condition of sleepers, maintainability of track etc. The track length which have thus outlived the life are then sanctioned for renewal and the renewals are carried out subject to availability of funds.

Renovation/Modernisation of Railway Stations

269. SHRI C.O. POULOSE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the Railway stations which have been extended, upgraded renovated, modernised and developed during the last three years in the country, State-wise;

(b) the amount spent thereon, State-wise;

(c) the names of Railway stations where renovation/modernisation work is going on; and

(d) the Railway stations proposed to be renovated/modernised in the coming year and the amount allocated for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (d) There are over 7000 railway stations on Indian Railways. Upgradation/extension/ renovation/modernisation of railway stations is a continuous process and the same is undertaken every year wherever warranted on traffic needs and on condition basis. Every year adequate allocation are made for this purpose. During 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 an